

AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 JUN 2006
PATENT

ED-US030965

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Yoshinobu FUKUDA et al.
Serial No.: New (Nat'l phase Entry of
PCT/2004/017466)
Filed: Herewith
For: MULTIPLATE CLUTCH DEVICE AND
CLUTCH DISK ASSEMBLY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached.

Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Thus, *no fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement*. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 09-177821 discloses a friction clutch having carbon pressure plate. Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 09-177821 is equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 5,779,018, which is cited to understand better the former reference.

Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 10-141387 discloses a multiple disk clutch.
Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 10-141387 is equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 5,878,857,
which is cited to understand better the former reference.

Japanese Utility Model Patent Publication No. 54-167251 discloses an
electromagnetic clutch.

Japanese Utility Model Patent Publication No. 48-104971 discloses a rivet.
Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 09-250556 discloses a multi-plate clutch.
Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 09-250556 is equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 5,904,234,
which is cited to understand better the former reference.

Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 59-133829 is equivalent to U.S. Patent No.
4,548,309, which is cited to understand better the former reference.

Japanese Utility Model Patent Publication No. 63-132127 discloses a clutch disk.
Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 60-205022 discloses a follower plate for a
friction clutch. Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 60-205022 is equivalent to GB Patent
Publication 2154288, which is cited to understand better the former reference.

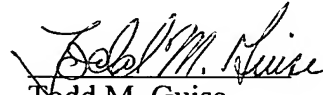
Japanese Utility Model Patent Publication No. 4-68226 discloses a clutch disk.
Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2-203029 discloses a friction assembly.
Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2-203029 is equivalent to U.S. Patent No.
4,967,893, which is cited to understand better the former reference.

Japanese Utility Model Patent Publication No. 54-73463 discloses a rivet.

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Todd M. Guise
Reg. No. 46,748

GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP
1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202)-293-0444
Dated: 6/22/06

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

Complete if Known

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

0

4

Attorney Docket Number

ED-US030965

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-2002-195290-A	07-10-2002	OKAZAKI	Column 1, lines 1 to 29; column 4, line 47 to column 10, line 19; Figs. 1 to 5	Y
		JP-09-177821-A	07-11-1997	HOFMANN et al.	Column 1, line 45 to column 2, line 12; column 3, line 24 to column 5, line 10; Fig. 1	N
		JP-10-141387-A	05-26-1998	FUKUDA et al.	Column 1, line 1 to column 2, line 9; column 5, line 31 to column 14, line 4; Figs. 1 to 10	N
		JP-2002-181072-A	06-26-2002	NAKAGAWA et al.	Column 1, lines 1 to 42; column 7, lines 26 to 49; column 8, line 1 to column 15, line 8; Figs. 1 to 12	Y

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the

Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.9).⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	PCT/JP2004/017466
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Yoshinobu FUKUDA
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	ED-US030965

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-54-167251-A	05-16-1978	SHIRAI	Full text; all drawings	N
		JP-48-104971	03-15-1972	NAKANISHI	Full text; all drawings	N
		JP-09-250556-A	09-22-1997	FUKUDA	Column 1, line 1 to column 2, line 4; column 2, line 46 to column 7, line 25; Figs. 1 to 4	N
		JP-59-133829-A	08-01-1984	BRAUN et al.	Page 6, upper right column, line 19 to page 8, upper right column, line 19; Figs. 1 to 3	N
		JP-63-132127-U	08-30-1988	SAEKI	Full text; all drawings	N

Date Considered

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 3 2 2004
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	PCT/JP2004/017466
				Filing Date	Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Yoshinobu FUKUDA
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	ED-US030965
Sheet	3	of	4		

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ^s
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-60-205022-A	10-16-1985	MAYCOCK et al.	Page 1, lower left column, line 4 to page 2, lower left column, line 20; page 3, upper right column, line 19 to page 4, lower right column, line 14; Figs. 1 to 3	N
		JP-04-68226-U	06-17-1992	KUMAGAYA	Full text; all drawings	N
		GB-2-300-233-A	10-30-1996	SCHULZ-ANDRES et al.	Page 5, line 8 to page 7, line 25; all drawings	N/A

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

4

of

4

Attorney Docket Number

Complete if Known

Application Number

PCT/JP2004/017466

Filing Date

Herewith

First Named Inventor

Yoshinobu FUKUDA

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

ED-US030965

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-02-203029-A	08-13-1990	VOGELE	Page 1, lower left column, line 5 to page 2, upper left column, line 18; page 4, lower left column, line 5 to page 5, lower right column, line 17; Figs. 1 to 4	N
		JP-54-73463	11-01-1977	WATANABE et al.	Full text, all drawings	N
		GB 2154288	09-04-1985	MAYCOCK et al.		N/A

Examiner
Signature

Date Considered

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.